

Message Text

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ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 L-03 CA-01 H-02 /027 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2689

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FOR ARA/CCA, L/ARA, CA/SCS

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: CASC CPRS SNAR CGEN CU
SUBJ: US ACFT CONFISCATED IN CUBA

REF: A) BENNET-GLICKMAN LETTER DATED 20 MARCH 1978
B). HAVANA 2026, 1643, 967, 932
C) DS-4 (S.J. TUCKER) DATED 20 OCTOBER 1978

1. SUMMARY

USINT HOW HAS FROM MINREX ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF RESPONSE
TO INQUIRIES ON BEHALF OF REPRESENTATIVE DANIEL R.
GLICKMAN REGARDING THE DISPOSITION OF A CESSNA MODEL
337 AIRCRAFT SEIZED IN CUBA DURING 1970 IN CONNECTION
WITH THE DRUG-RELATED ARRESTS OF AMCITS BURRIS AND
JOHNSON. MR. GLICKMAN'S INTEREST IS ON BEHALF OF
CESSNA FINANCE CORPORATION, THE AIRCRAFT'S OWNER OF
RECORD. THE CUBAN RESPONSE MAY ALSO HAVE APPLICATION
IN THE MATTER OF THE 1977 SEIZURE OF A CESSNA 411
AIRCRAFT SEIZED FOR THE SAME REASONS IN
CONNECTION WITH THE ARREST OF AMCITS SAVAGE AND
PALANGE AS WELL AS IN THREE 1978 CASES INVOLVING
US ACFT CARRYING MARIJUANA. THESE RECENT CASES
INVOLVE BEECHCRAFT SUPER 18 N70DG (AKAM-
*85"&34-)\$), BEECHCRAFT QUEENAIRE N51035 (FYFE) AND AERO
COMMANDER N-808-JK (CHILD). END SUMMARY.
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2. REGARDING CESSNA 337 (CESSNA FINANCE CORPORATION,
REPRESENTATIVE GLICKMAN), MINREX RESPONDED TO USINT INQUIRIES
ON NOVEMBER 14 AS FOLLOWS:
-AIRCRAFT CONFISCATED MARY 13, 1971 BY COURT ORDER BECAUSE OF
ITS INVOLVEMENT IN DRUG TRAFFICKING, CASE NUMBER 585/70.
-CONFISCATION CONFIRMED BY CUBAN SUPREME POPULAR TRIBUNAL IN

CASE NUMBER 57 OF JANUARY 30, 1973.

-SUPREME TRIBUNAL DECISION FINAL.

-CESSNA FINANCE CORPORATION MAY PETITION FOR RELIEF BEFORE THE THIRD CHAMBER (CRIMINAL) OF THE HAVANA PROVINCE POPULAR TRIBUNAL, SUCCESSOR TO THE COURT WHICH ORDERED CONFISCATION IN 1971.

-CESSNA'S PETITION FOR RELIEF SHOULD BE MADE THROUGH APPROPRIATE CUBAN ATTORNEY FROM "BUFETE COLECTIVO" (COLLECTIVE BUFFET) OF CITY OF HAVANA.

3. USINT REQUESTED NAME OF APPROPRIATE ATTORNEY AND WAS INFORMED IN MID-JULY (HAVANA 2026) THAT CESSNA FINANCE COULD REQUEST SERVICES OF DR. RENE GOMEZ MANZANO, AN ATTORNEY IN THE BUFETE COLECTIVO AT RANCHO BOYEROS.

4. REQUEST DEPARTMENT INFORM CONGRESSMAN GLICKMAN OF ABOVE AND SUGGEST THAT CESSNA COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH CUBA IN WASHINGTON REGARDING STEPS TO SECURE DR. GOMEZ' SERVICES. DEPARTMENT COULD ALSO SUGGEST THAT MR. FIAIA OF SOUTHEASTERN AVIATION UNDERWRITERS (REF. C) CONTACT DR. GOMEZ.

5. AS A GENERAL RULE, AIRCRAFT AND OTHER VESSELS USED IN THE TRANSPORT OF DRUGS WITHIN CUBAN TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION ARE SUBJECT TO CONFISCATION. REMAINS OF BEECHCRAFT 18 (N70DG) (AKA-MITZGERALD) HAVE BEEN CONFISCATED IN CAMAGUEY BY COURT ORDER. CONOFF SAW REMAINS OF THIS AIRCRAFT DURING RECENT TRIP TO CAMAGUEY WHERE HE ALSO SAW N51035 (FYFE). LATTER ACFT OBSERVED UNCLASSIFIED

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TO CONTAIN NO SEATS, TO HAVE LARGE ALUMINUM TANK INSTALLED IN CABIN. CARPETED FLOOR, WALLS, TOILET, WINDOW SILLS COVERED WITH DRY GREEN SEEDS AND VEGETABLE TRASH WHICH CUBAN AUTHORITIES ALLEGE TO BE REMAINS OF 1400 PLUS POUNDS OF MARIJUANA THEY BELIEVE OCCUPANTS THREW THROUGH EMERGENCY HATCH. CONOFF ESTIMATES THAT, TRASH, IF CONSOLIDATED, WOULD BE MORE THAN TWO HEAPING HANDFULS. SAME AUTHORITIES SAID FORMER ACFT (N-70-DG) LOADED TO THE GILLS WITH MARIJUANA. IT CAN BE PRESUMED THAT BOTH FYFE AND CHILD ACFT WILL ALSO BE CONFISCATED BASED ON EVIDENCE CUBAN STATE SECURITY POLICE SAY THEY HAVE THAT BOTH ACFT ENGAGED IN MARIJUANA TRADE.

7. IF DEPARTMENT RECEIVES INQUIRES FROM OWNERS, INSURERS ABOVE THREE RECENT CASES, IT MAY WISH TO DRAW FROM ABOVE IN RESPONDING TO THEM.
LANE

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NNN

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